GP MONACO
SATURDAY, MAY 24, 2008. ISSUE 210
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THE RED BULLETIN

AN ALMOST INDEPENDENT F1 NEWSPAPER



Pool party
Red Bull hosted the party of the grand prix (see page 20) on the Energy Station, and with the weather holding out, its pool seemed the perfect place to take a dip
Photography: Thomas Butler

SATURDAY *Monaco* 24·05·08

There's nowhere on the F1 calendar more glamorous than Monaco and to celebrate, we've dedicated our whole issue to the kind of lifestyle we get to enjoy once a year. Find out how to do the grand prix glitterati-style, discover which paddock personality has the best toys, plus see what the cars could look like if fashion designers created their liveries…

Lewis's sober statement

Lewis Hamilton's car has been running pretty sweetly so far this week, but Friday presented something of a handling challenge. While Lewis sharpens his skills using a perfectly set-up simulator back at McLaren HQ, Johnnie Walker have built their own version – only this one simulates what it's like to drive drunk. It uses slow responses, unpredictable handling and blurry vision to give drivers an idea of what it's like to get behind the wheel under the influence of alcohol. It was a new experience for Lewis, who says he's always been the designated driver. "I was the only one of my friends to own a car, so it fell to me to always stay sober."

Bishop's breakfast bump

Matt Bishop has discovered that every cloud has a silver lining. Or, more specifically, if you get hit on the head hard enough you will receive some lovely presents. McLaren's head of PR was eating breakfast at a London café when the huge painting that was hanging above him came away from its mountings and crashed onto his head. "I suffered light tissue damage to my scalp immediately above my right ear, but nothing serious," says Matt. The painting was by Howard Craig Hanna, an American artist who was so upset that his work had spoiled The Bish's breakfast that he offered Matt the chance to visit his St John's Wood studio and pick out two originals from his archive. "I have to say, they're beautiful," says Matt. And now Matt has something in common with actress Drew Barrymore – she collects Hanna's work too.

GP for top photographer

There was no holding back for Renault when they gave Jiri Krenek their ING photography prize for last year. His reward was a drive in a Renault F1 car, despite never having raced anything more powerful than a kart. Jiri spent Tuesday at Paul Ricard, where he was kitted out in full Alonso overalls and sent out to learn the circuit in a Formula Renault. He was also given detailed driving instruction and a medical and muscle workout. It all built up to two laps behind the wheel of his dream F1 machine. "I was scared because it was threatening to rain," explains Jiri. "When the engine started I thought it was a thunder clap. I was cautious on the turns, but gave it full throttle on the straights, shouting in my helmet the whole way round 'I can't believe I'm driving an F1 car!'"

Well done! Fifteen years after his uncle Ayrton's last win here, Friday's GP2 winner, Bruno Senna, congratulates his iSport team-mate, Red Bull's Karun Chandhok, who secured a hard-fought third place.



Track Talk!

INSTANT OPINIONS #6: ROAD RACES

Should street circuits be making a comeback?

POSITIVE: Absolutely. Street races are the most exciting and dynamic events on the calendar. Drivers have to be on top of their game to cope with the twisty narrow tracks, uneven surfaces and the closeness of the barriers. Unlike the anodyne, new generation of concrete über-tracks, fans can get close to the action and experience the speed and sound of F1 at exhilarating proximity.

NEGATIVE: This isn't the 1960s; taking F1 cars onto public roads is ludicrous. They are so slow around Monaco, that they might as well race in the transporters. It's incredibly dangerous without proper run-off areas, there's no opportunity to pass, and the races degenerate into long processions. Why have this when at tracks like Spa, Istanbul and Silverstone you can enjoy racing as it should be?

Briatore bans topless Lily

Flavio Briatore was left red-faced and flustered when British pop star Lily Allen joined in the fun at Flav's Cannes Film Festival party earlier this week, aboard his boat, the Force Blue. Taking a break from recording her second album, Lily, clearly in party mode, removed her bikini top and then jumped overboard. She was dragged from the sea by crew members, who feared she was drowning. Embarrassed, Flavio gave Lily a towel, told her to cover up and asked her to leave. We had no idea he was quite so proper.



Info at your fingertips

Can't remember when you're supposed to interview DC? Forgotten who came third in second qualifying? Fear not, help is at hand thanks to the generous people at Red Bull Racing and Toro Rosso. On Thursday the Energy Station launched the InfoKiosk, your one-stop guide to the weekend. As well as times, places, and links to some very fine websites, the touchscreen facility also has the latest weather reports, press releases, media schedules and the wonderful new Red Bulletin website www.redbulletinf1.com. You'll find it on your right just inside the door in the Energy Station. How did we ever live without it?

Party like a billionaire

Rumour has it that two of hip hop's highest high rollers will be in town this weekend. Both P Diddy and Jay-Z are expected to attend the Billionaire parties at the Fairmont Hotel, which are running tonight and tomorrow. To book tickets and tables call +377 9330 9330 or visit www.billionairelife.com. And to find out more about Flavio Briatore's glitzy enterprises, turn to pages 18-19.

6 OF THE BEST: BAGS OF STYLE

This race is all about looking chic, so we tracked down some paddock arm candy.



PAURIC SWEENEY PYTHON SHOULDER BAG, *$2,860*
Carried by: Slavica Ecclestone
Slavica is right on trend with this sleek bag from top Irish designer Pauric Sweeney. Not only is it on many fashionista's wish lists, but it's glamorous enough to take her effortlessly from lunch in the paddock to Hotel de Paris reception to yacht party.
Style score: ***9/10***



DIOR JAZZCLUB MEDIUM FLAPPED BAG, *$1,950*
Carried by: Jenni Räikkönen
Dior can do no wrong in the current 'It' bag stakes, so Jenni's choice is spot on. But if she'd opted for the 'Soft Babe', as carried by the likes of Hollywood A-listers Sarah Jessica Parker and Mary-Kate Olsen, and chosen a brighter colour she'd have got 10/10.
Style score: ***8/10***



PRADA TESSUTO GAUFRE, *$1,289*
Carried by: Silvana Barrichello
A great colour for summer, this bag is straight out of Prada's spring/summer 2008 Resort range, so Silvana's definitely got her finger on the fashion pulse. A great daytime bag for the paddock, and one most of the girls in The Bulletin office would be more than happy to own.
Style score: ***8/10***



MIU MIU LARGE PLEATED TOTE, *$1,445*
Carried by: Tamara Ecclestone
Tamara might not be making as much of a statement as her mum with this bag, but we love her soft, practical tote in classic tan. And it's big enough to hold everything she needs for a grand prix weekend in Monaco – including a waterproof jacket should the weather turn wet.
Style score: ***7/10***

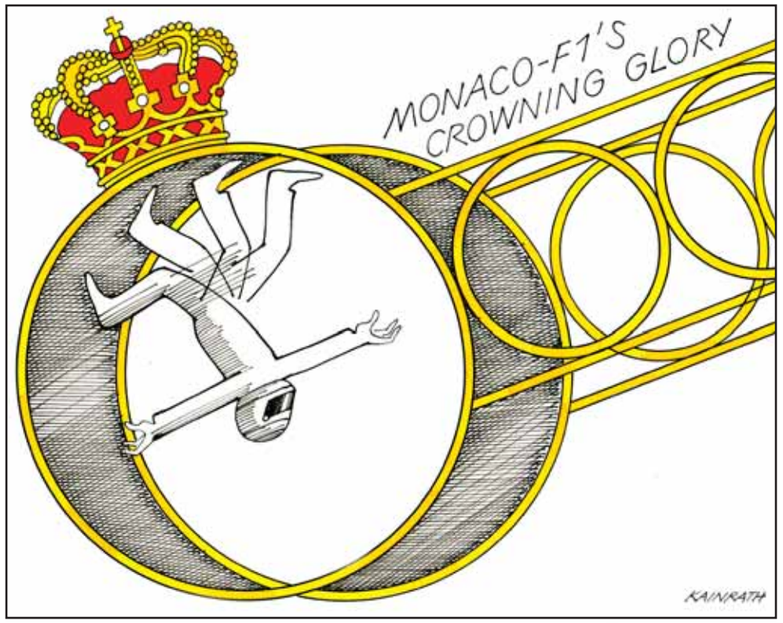


LOUIS VUITTON SUHALI LOCKIT PM, *$2,540*
Carried by: Karen Minier
A style classic for the ever-chic Karen. This bag may not be on the current 'It' bag list, but it's beautifully made of gorgeous deep brown leather that will complement just about any outfit – and it won't be out of date in six months.
Style score: ***6/10***



LOUIS VUITTON MONOGRAM CARRYALL, *$1,190*
Carried by: Anna Rafaela Massa
Louis Vuitton is always popular in the paddock, but this bag seems rather practical for the usually flamboyant Anna Rafaela. We're not saying it's boring, but we think that with this bag she'd look more at home in an airport departure lounge than posing in the paddock.
Style score: ***5/10***

PHOTOGRAPHY: REX, SUTTON IMAGES, DPPI, XPB COVER ILLUSTRATION: ARNO



PIT BITCH: MONACO ROCKS

Let's get the parties started

BY HELEN PARADYCE

F1's most staid grandees were dancing like Michael Jackson with gout

Sometimes I think that doing this column is like writing a suicide note in weekly instalments, and never more so than here in Party Central. Go on, admit it, it's only Saturday but you feel you've been here for weeks and that's because you've been to more parties and consumed more alcohol than you would in a normal month.

Where to begin? Well when in Party Central it's best to go straight to ground zero. And that, of course, means the enormous Monaco Red Bull Chilled Thirstday party. Four years in F1 and Red Bull has got its Monaco parties really well sorted and there was a great vibe on board the floating fun factory on Thursday and Friday night, provided by Seb Fontaine and the awesome Queens of Noize, who showed all the record geek boys who fiddle with faders that give a girl a party and she can make even F1's most staid grandees dance like Michael Jackson with gout.

Still, so many parties so little time. Next stop was the Kingfisher boat. In terms of throwing a good party Vijay's crew are clearly still on a learning curve. This weekend they made sure they had some extra portable toilets on deck, which eventually filled up with empty champagne bottles as the night wore on. They'd learned their lesson in Istanbul where they only had two loos, which led to very long queues: it's what fans of French impressionist art would know as Two Loos, Long Trek.

The Indian Empress bash was in different style and if I say that style is refined, I'm talking about the setting, the décor and the hosts, because the guests are the same F1 riff-raff, except with smarter clothes. A woman who runs a promotional agency, was somewhat incapacitated and was lifting up girls' dresses to check out their underwear. She met her match when she approached ITV's Louise Goodman, who with her arm cocked threatened to deck the woman if she tried that trick on her.

Back on the subject of clothes, I also found time to cruise round to the Amber Lounge fashion show, which attracted drivers, their wives, girlfriends and others, modelling, among other things, clothes by an exciting new designer called Petra Ecclestone. Now, what are the odds on a fashion designer in Monaco having exactly the same name as the man in charge of F1 – amazing!

For us girls, one of the delights of Monaco is packing a huge number of dresses. In fact, I went shopping for a new frock to wear in the Principality. I took my best friend (she thinks I'm too thin, I think she's a natural blonde) Fay McAdemy with me and she raved over a little cerise number I tried on: "Darling, that dress will attract men like flies." I didn't buy it, as why on earth would I want to go out with a man who looks like a fly. It's a Kafka thing.

Shoes are always an important agenda in the week leading up to this race, so I therefore selected a nice new pair of flat Jimmy Choo Aspen Elaphe sandals, in a lovely green colour and a snip at $1,000. One enterprising shop here has evidently seen drunken English girls staggering up hills at the end of a long night, with slingbacks slung over shoulder, blissfully unaware that one shoe has fallen down the hill. Hence the sign outside which reads: "Buy 2 Sandals, Get One Free."



ON THIS DAY... 24/5/08



1930: MAGNIFICENT WOMAN
Amy Johnson, piloting a Gipsy Moth biplane, becomes the first woman to fly solo from Britain to Australia.
Hear her account of the record-breaking flight.
YouTube.com search: Amy Johnson + story

1883: A VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE
New York's Brooklyn Bridge, linking the districts of Brooklyn and Manhattan, is opened.
A fan of the bridge gives a historical commentary.
YouTube.com search: Brooklyn Bridge + let's + cross

1976: CONCORDE REALLY TAKES OFF
The first commercial transatlantic Concorde lands in Washington as the US lifts aircraft restrictions.
A short film celebrating this incredible machine.
YouTube.com search: Concorde + intro

BIRTHS

1941: BOB DYLAN
Legendary genre-spanning singer-songwriter.
YouTube.com search: Dylan + no + direction

ON THIS DAY, VISIT...

THE ROYAL CAR COLLECTION
This exhibition of HSH The Prince of Monaco's private collection contains beautiful classic and vintage cars from the last century of motoring. Terrasses de Fontvielles, 98000 Monaco. Open daily from 10am-6pm. Entry is 6 euros.

ON THIS DAY IN F1...



1975: BELGIUM
Ronnie Peterson picks up a parking ticket at Zolder for retiring his car in an unauthorised area.
Watch a tribute to the Swede.
YouTube.com search: Ronnie Peterson + tribute

PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES. SUTTON IMAGES. ILLUSTRATION: DIETMAR KAINRATH



It's every team boss's nightmare. You catch your shirt on the fence and can't get away from the journalist.



Getting a construction firm from Pisa to erect the motorhomes had not been the best idea...



They might have dropped out of the sport, but Super Aguri still had a luxury yacht in Monaco harbour.



....but fortunately some efficient Germans turned up in a Mercedes and soon put everything right.

HARBOUR MASTERS

Life in the Monaco paddock is more than just messing about in boats.



We know the pits are a bit of a distance from the paddock, but Mark and David's insistence on driving from one place to the other was causing problems.

PHOTOGRAPHY: DPPI. SUTTON IMAGES. XPB

WIN THE RACE OF *Glamour*

So you think you know how to do the Monaco Grand Prix in style? Well think again. If you really want to break the bank in Monte Carlo then the only way to do it is to charter a yacht and join the glitterati on a tour of the French Riviera. By Sarah Edworthy



PHOTOGRAPHY: SHUTTERSTOCK, REX FEATURES, SUTTON IMAGES, GETTY IMAGES, THOMAS BUTLER

You set off for Monaco with a chorus ringing in your ears that ranges from playful jokes to green-eyed envy. "All right for some!" "It's a tough life you have!" "Need someone to carry your bags?" The phrase 'Monaco Grand Prix' evokes images of a sun-kissed, champagne-drenched, party-going lifestyle. It has such a filmic resonance that people assume that just because you're walking into this backdrop on the Côte d'Azur, you'll automatically be eating Michelin-starred canapés, accepting invitations to massive yachts, wearing chic designer clothes and relaxing on deck with billionaires and supermodels.

For the lucky few, life in Monaco is actually like that. For the rest of us mere mortals, however, let's be honest – a typical day over the five-day grand prix week probably involves a Stars 'n' Bars burger, a few beers in a plastic cup and the depressing realisation that the closest you're likely to get to a glass of bubbly on a boat is by taking up voyeurism.

You spot a buzzing brasserie, but it's packed, booked out for the duration of the grand prix. You see a great bar, but it's been taken over for a private event. You get the call for a fabulous free party, but you can't deal with the dress code or work out how to get there. There seems to be a secret round of events, an ultra-exclusive way of life, to which you are gloriously uninvited.

Well, feel left out no more, with our exclusive insight into life as part of the French Riviera yacht set. Put aside a couple of minutes to set your imagination free as you read on… Why not charter a ridiculously large boat and cruise around the South of France for a week before ➜

➜ the grand prix? Then, after the race, with the help of some authentic Monégasque residents we've provided a list of the best places to eat, drink, shop and relax in Monaco. You can either go as yourself (not recommended) or, with a few of these useful tips, attempt to pass yourself off as a local (much better).

The lifestyle here is easy to infiltrate; you just have to talk the talk and look the look. Think sophisticated Euromoney rather than Bohemian surfer dude/babe. For men, this means Italian chic – jeans, white shirt and light brown leather shoes (no socks), teamed with a cashmere jumper thrown over the shoulders or a navy jacket. For women, it's all about smart-casual ensembles accessorised with a perfect tan, immaculate lipstick, large sunglasses and sizeable Art Deco jewellery.

And if at any point you start panicking and think you're about to be discovered, remember that you have a secret weapon. As an interloper, you have on your side one of the great unwritten rules of the Côte d'Azur: no one will ever ask who you are or what you do, just in case you ask them the same thing.

WELCOME TO THE CRUISE

Why rush? This is a journey to savour

THE ONLY WAY TO TRAVEL

The best way to 'do the grand prix' is by yacht. Leading luxury yacht charter Edmiston can offer yachts such as Silver, Atmosphere and Audacia, each of which will be in the South of France during the grand prix this year, for 480,000 euros, 200,000 euros and 121,000 euros per week respectively. Edmiston can put together a French Riviera itinerary tailored just for you, which you can adjust according to how much or how little of the grand prix you want to experience. The distance between St Tropez and Monaco is a mere 44 nautical miles, so it seems a pity not to be as yacht-tastic as possible and set off on a trip like this…

DAY ONE
NICE/ST TROPEZ

Embark in Monaco Port at midday. Enjoy welcome cocktails onboard, followed by a late lunch anchored off Plage Pampelonne close to St Tropez. Spend the evening anchored outside (or inside if you can get a berth) the port of St Tropez, famous for its boutiques and sidewalk cafés. Have dinner onboard, or mix with the jet-set ashore at the infamous Joseph restaurant *(T: +33 4 94 97 01 66)*. After dinner, party on at the world-famous Les Caves du Roy nightclub *(T: +33 4 94 97 16 02)*.

DAY TWO
ST TROPEZ

Spend the morning relaxing off Plage Pampelonne – a beautiful stretch of golden sand backed by green hills of pine forest. Have lunch ashore at one of the many beach restaurants. Le Club 55 *(T: +33 4 94 55 55 55)* serves excellent food in relaxed, comfortable surroundings. Or, for something more outrageous, try La Voile Rouge *(T: +33 4 94 79 84 34)*, which is more like an outdoor nightclub. Finish the day with dinner onboard or ashore at La Piscine restaurant *(T: +33 4 94 56 51 10)*.

DAY THREE
ÎLES D'HYERES

Depart St Tropez in the afternoon for the Îles d'Hyères to swim and relax. This stunning chain of three small islands – Porquerolles, Port-Cros and Levant – features beautiful, secluded beaches and is mostly a wildlife sanctuary. Spend the night at anchor, enjoying the peace and quiet.

DAY FOUR
PORT-CROS TOWN

This is quite a small town, but the surrounding area is very scenic, with a wild landscape and superb anchorages – the perfect place to spend time recovering after St Tropez. Spend a day enjoying the peace and quiet before heading back east towards Cannes and Monaco.

DAY FIVE
CANNES

Wake up anchored off Cannes. Indulge yourself and spend the day sunbathing onboard, playing with the jet-skis and water toys or exploring the town with its numerous designer shops. Or visit the Îles de Lérins (just off Cannes) for a relaxing lunch onboard and more water fun. For dinner, try the highly recommended fish restaurant Tétou *(T: +33 4 93 63 71 16)* in Golfe-Juan, followed by drinks at the fashionable Bâoli *(T: +33 (0)4 93 43 03 43)*.

DAY SIX
CAP D'ANTIBES

Onward to Cap d'Antibes. Lunch at the exclusive and luxurious Hotel du Cap-Eden Roc *(T: +33 4 93 61 39 01)*, then remain anchored off the Cap for the afternoon. For dinner, head to Plage Paloma near St Jean Cap Ferrat or Plage Mala in Cap d'Ail. Both are lovely beaches with great restaurants.



MAKE MORE OF MONACO

How to play like a millionaire

DAY SEVEN
MONACO

After a short cruise to Monaco, it's time to hit the shore for sightseeing and shopping. Later, dine in style at Rampoldi *(T: +377 93 30 70 65)* or the Hôtel de Paris *(T: +377 98 06 25 25)*, then head to the casino or, predictably, to Jimmy'z *(T: +377 98 06 70 68)* nightclub. When you get back to the boat, set off for a short trip to Villefranche-sur-Mer, where you can enjoy breakfast and a swim the next morning before heading back to Monaco for disembarkation.

FOOD OF THE GODS

Once you're back on dry land in Monaco, the first thing you'll need to do is see and be seen, preferably by other people who want to see and be seen. The best place to do this is at a classy, ultra-expensive restaurant, from which there are plenty to choose.

If money is no object, there's Alain Ducasse's flagship, Le Louis XV *(T: +377 98 06 88 64)*, at the Hôtel de Paris – Michelin-starred cuisine on a summer terrace overlooking Casino Square (jacket and tie required) – or Joël Robuchon's restaurant in the revamped Hôtel Métropole *(T: +377 9315 1510)*, popular with young locals and celebrities such as Bono and Robert De Niro.

Sass Café *(T: +377 93 25 52 00)* is quite simply a Monaco institution. Every night from 8pm at this restaurant and piano bar, Monsieur and Madame Sass and their son Sammy famously dote on regulars. It's always packed, but food and drink are served efficiently. The coolest way to arrive is to land by tender from a yacht and elbow your way through the crowd to a table you've already booked.

We know we recommended La Salière in Fontvieille *(T: +377 92 05 25 82)* on Thursday, but this splendid Italian beloved by music stars, socialites and David Coulthard is worth mentioning again. As is Beef Bar *(T: +377 97 77 09 29)*, a stylish place for dinner, which requires early booking. La Rascasse *(T: +377 93 25 56 90)*, located just by the entrance to the pitlane, serves Moroccan food and has a 5am licence. Zébra Square *(T: +377 99 99 25 50)*, on the top floor of the hi-tech ocean-front Grimaldi Forum on Avenue Princesse Grace, has great panoramic sea views and exquisite outdoor seating – perfect for gazing down on the yachts in the harbour and checking out who is cruising in for the grand prix. Visiting celebrities and top models spend the early hours here, fuelled by the spectacular vodka cocktails.

Other new additions to the scene include La Rose des Vents *(T: +377 97 70 46 96)*, a trendy restaurant and private beach open every day for lunch and dinner on the Plage du Larvotto, close to the Grimaldi Forum and opposite the Monte Carlo Sporting Club. With indoor/outdoor terrace and beach seating, its menu boasts shrimps and prawns so fresh they're almost wriggling. Locals rave about Cosmopolitan *(T: +377 93 25 78 68)* on Rue du Portier, which specialises in marrying fantastic wine with simple, exotic cuisine.

Further west along the coast, it's worth exploring the many port-side brasseries of Beaulieu-sur-Mer and St Jean Cap Ferrat, which serve delicious fresh fish. The African Queen *(T: +334 93 01 10 85)*, named after the Hollywood movie and filled with posters of Hepburn and Bogie, is so hip Naomi Campbell comes here.

SPEND, SPEND, SPEND!

Where to shop? The look in Monaco is 'niche chic', which is to say the Principality requires a finely tuned look that you might want to tone down for anywhere else in the world. Still, it's a great excuse to shop. The glitziest fashion and jewellery stores are found on Rue Monte Carlo and Rue des Beaux Arts near the Casino. More accessibly priced is the Métropole shopping centre beneath the Hôtel Métropole. Look out for Espace Mirage *(T: +377 97 70 82 52)*, which features the best fashion labels from Paris, London, Milan and New York.

UP IN THE CLOUDS

If you prefer mountains to sea, one of the best-kept secrets in the region is a delightful small hotel and restaurant high up in the mountains. For years, European doctors who come to work as track medics during the grand prix have stayed at the Auberge de La Madone *(T: +334 93 79 91 17)*, in Peillon, which is a tiny, medieval hilltop village. Run by the charming Millo family, the terrace restaurant is well worth a visit on either the Friday of the grand prix, when there's no track action to absorb, or as a restorative retreat after a long weekend of hard partying.

To get there, however, you have to negotiate more tight hairpin bends than a Formula One driver clocks up over a grand prix weekend. Like most of the glamorous lifestyle options – sailing on a boat, partying until the small hours, negotiating traffic jams in summer heat – it requires a strong head and stomach.























Dressed TO IMPRESS

You can't come to Monaco without attending the coolest parties and the La Formula Una girls were looking fabulous as they prepared to go to Chilled Thirstday at the Energy Station.

FOR MORE, VISIT: WWW.REDBULLETINF1.COM

PHOTOGRAPHY: THOMAS BUTLER

Stars AND CARS

During its glittering history the Monaco Grand Prix has always attracted the biggest celebrities. We look back over the past 57 years of action on and off the race circuit.

DID YOU KNOW?
Although scores of grand prix drivers have lived in Monaco (for tax reasons) only three who were actually born there have raced in F1: Louis Chiron, Andre Testut and Olivier Beretta.

ON TRACK
1955: After an interval of a few years the race returned, and, at the age of 56, Louis Chiron became the oldest driver to compete in an F1 race. Alberto Ascari ended up in the harbour, while the win went to Maurice Trintignant.

ON TRACK
1950: The first year the Monaco Grand Prix counted towards the Formula One World Championship. Juan Manuel Fangio scored his first world championship victory.

ON FILM
1956: Hollywood actress Grace Kelly married Prince Rainier III in a lavish two-day ceremony in 1956. Although she never made another film, she did go on to present trophies at the grand prix.

ON FILM
1966: The John Frankenheimer movie Grand Prix featured cameos from several drivers of the day, such as Graham Hill and Jim Clark, but the cast also descended on Monaco. They included James Garner, Yves Montand and Brian Bedford and the gorgeous Eva Marie Saint.

DID YOU KNOW?
In 1966, Peter Sellers ran his own Formula 3 team in the F1 support race, with Brian Hart (of F1 engine company Hart) at the wheel.

ON TRACK
1965: In the 1960s, Graham Hill earned the nickname 'Mr Monaco' after winning the race five times, including his most prestigious in 1965, which he won despite accidentally driving up an escape road to avoid a backmarker. The race featured another mishap, when Paul Hawkins repeated history by driving his Lotus into the harbour.

ON TRACK
1974: Sixteen cars retired from this encounter, most of them through a huge mid-field accident. Ronnie Peterson took the win, while John Watson scored his first F1 points.

DID YOU KNOW?
The Automobile Club de Monaco started out as an organisation for cyclists – the Monaco Cycling Sporting Association – founded in 1890. By 1925 it had realised four wheels were better than two.

ON FILM
1971: Infamous director Roman Polanski trailed Jackie Stewart around the Monaco Grand Prix for his unusual and revealing film Weekend Of A Champion. He even got into the driver's bathroom. And Ringo Starr made an appearance, too.

PHOTOGRAPHY: LAT, SUTTON IMAGES, POPPER FOTO, SCHLEGELMILCH, GETTY IMAGES

1950-1959 | 1960-1969 | 1970-1979

ON TRACK
1982: Perhaps the craziest Monaco GP ever. René Arnoux, Alain Prost, Riccardo Patrese, Didier Pironi and Andrea de Cesaris all suffered mishaps while leading – although Patrese managed to re-start his car after spinning to claim the victory (his first). As James Hunt commented: "We're waiting for a winner, but we don't appear to be getting one."

ON TRACK
1984: Alain Prost, who along with Ayrton Senna would dominate the top step of the Monaco podium for the next decade, took his first and, disappointingly, most controversial Monaco win. The race was stopped before reaching two-thirds distance and therefore only half points were awarded. Prost regretted the stoppage at the end of the season as he lost out on the world title by half a point.

ON TRACK
1992: Williams' Nigel Mansell – who had won each of the previous five grands prix that year – had a fascinating duel with Senna after a loose wheel-nut forced him to pit and come out behind the Brazilian. Senna took the chequered flag just two 10ths ahead of the Brit.

ON TRACK
1993: Senna scored his record sixth victory. Back in 1987, he was the first driver to win in a car with active suspension, he was caught by police the next day for riding a motorbike without a helmet, he was released when they realised who he was.

ON TRACK
2004: Jarno Trulli wins his only grand prix victory to date, after leader Michael Schumacher takes his nose off in the tunnel.

ON TRACK
2006: Although Michael Schumacher won an impressive five Monaco Grands Prix (equalling Graham Hill's total number of victories) his final visit to the Principality ended in controversy when he was sent to the back of the grid for ruining rival Fernando Alonso's qualifying run by 'parking' at the Rascasse and bringing out the yellow flags. Alonso went on to win while Schumacher clawed his way back to fifth.

DID YOU KNOW?
With 14 victories, McLaren has the most Monaco wins for a constructor, ahead of Ferrari, which has nine.

DID YOU NOW?
In the 1990s, Sly Stallone made several appearances as he tried to bring a new movie about F1 to life. The film was never made, so we have no idea whether it would have been worse than Driven.

DID YOU KNOW?
Red Bull team boss Christian Horner was forced to jump into a swimming pool with only a cape to preserve his modesty after losing a bet when David Coulthard claimed third in 2006.

ON FILM
2004: George Clooney, Brad Pitt and Matt Damon made the female members of the paddock swoon when they arrived in Monaco to promote Ocean's 12 with the Jaguar Racing team. During the course of the weekend, a huge diamond that was embedded in the nose cone of Christian Klien's car went missing.

ON FILM
2005: Red Bull Racing's pit crew were transformed into Stormtroopers for the 2005 promo with George Lucas's sixth Star Wars film. The cars were decked out in a special livery and Chewbacca was spotted in the pits. To top it off, DJ Yoda spun some tunes on the decks in the Energy Station.

1980-1989

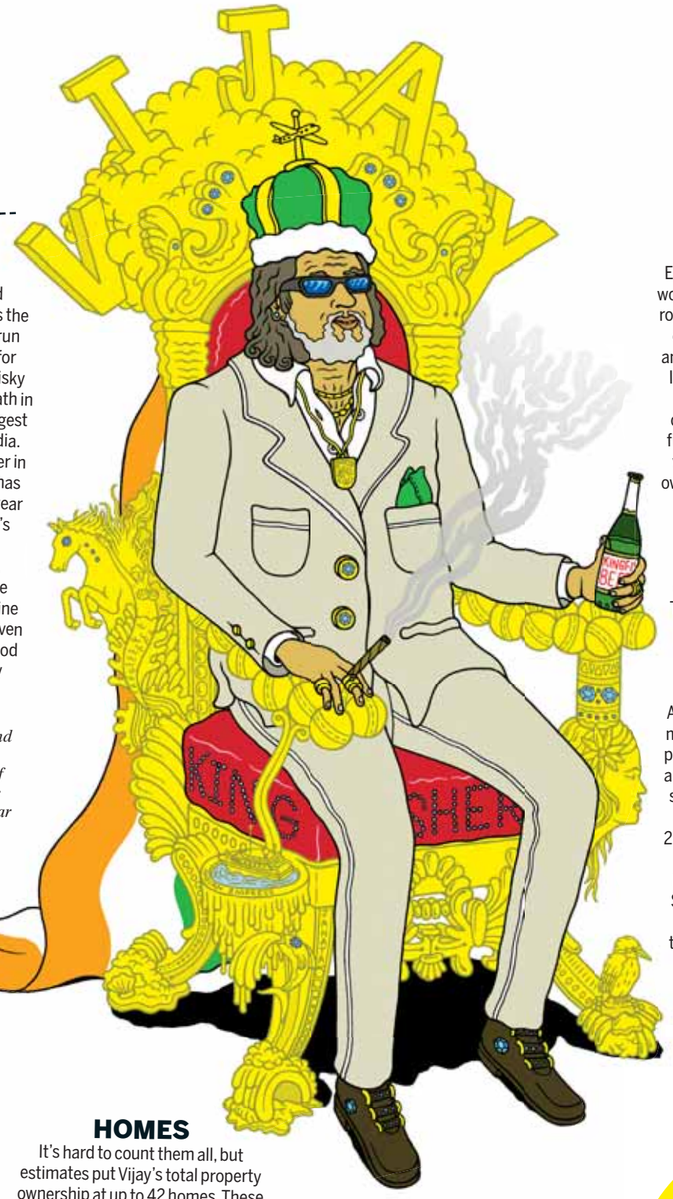
1990-1999

2000 -

WHO IS THE KING OF *Bling?*

If a man is judged by the size of his assets, then Force India owner Dr Vijay Mallya and Renault boss Flavio Briatore are both extraordinarily well endowed. But which one has the best toys?

Vijay MALLYA



BUSINESS

Industrialist Vijay's empire is founded on alcohol, which is why he's known as the King of Good Times in India. Vijay's run the company, which is responsible for Kingfisher beer, Whyte & Mackay whisky and Pinky vodka, since his father's death in 1983 and now it's the world's third largest distiller and the biggest brewer in India. Kingfisher Airlines is the largest carrier in India, making 218 flights a day. Vijay has plans to go global and in August this year will commence routes to the USA. He's also got five Airbus A380s on order. Vijay's becoming a media baron, too, having bought a share in The Asian Age newspaper and taken over film magazine CineBlitz. And his love of cinema has even seen him produce a couple of Bollywood movies: The Forest and the critically acclaimed Dance Like A Man.

BLING SCORE:

The drinks are always free for Vijay, and owning an airline has made him the Branson of Bangalore. There's talk of a Bollywood F1 movie – will Vijay be directing? Just think how bling an Oscar would look on the mantelpiece…

SPORTS

In addition to F1, Vijay's passionate about the most traditional form of horsepower. He purchased his first racehorse, Danish Lad, when he was 21 and subsequently bought the historic Kunigal stud farm, the oldest in India. He is the only owner to have won the Indian Derby more than four times. Vijay acquired the Bangalore Royal Challengers cricket team earlier this year for US$111.6 million. And while, unlike Flavio, he doesn't own a soccer team, he does get a greater choice of managers' boxes as Kingfisher sponsors both East Bengal and Mohun Bagon.

BLING SCORE:

How do you get more bling than owning an F1 team? You can't. The only others in the private members club are Frank/Patrick and Dietrich/Gerhard.

HOMES

It's hard to count them all, but estimates put Vijay's total property ownership at up to 42 homes. These include his main bases in London and Sausalito near San Francisco, houses in Monte Carlo, Singapore, South Africa, homes in every major city in India, a palatial beach retreat in Goa, an apartment in New York's Trump Plaza and a castle in Scotland.

BLING SCORE:

How do you top that?

TOYS

His flagship yacht, the Indian Empress, is the 15th biggest in the world. Vijay bought it from the Saudi royal family and uses it to showcase originals by Dali, Renoir, Chagall and Picasso. In addition, there's the Indian Princess, a slightly smaller boat, and a new 125m berth on order, which will be one of the top five biggest yachts ever built. Vijay will take delivery in 2010. He also owns the Kalizma, a 50m Edwardian yacht once owned by Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor. As well as the art, there are the antiquities – he owns a number of significant artefacts including Tipu Sultan's sword that was used to fight the British in 1799. Vijay paid £175,000 for it and returned it to India, after British forces had seized it 200 years earlier. Appropriately enough for an airline magnate, Vijay has not one but four private jets: a Gulfstream, a Hawker, a Boeing 727 and an Airbus, which is so luxurious it took a year to outfit. Now for the cars: he's got about 260 of them! They are stored across 10 countries and include a 1913 Rolls Royce Silver Ghost, the 1926 Sunbeam Tiger land-speed record car, and a bunch of F1 cars from the 1970s, which Vijay likes to drive at Sears Point in California. He also owns a Hummer bicycle and a Rolls Royce garbage truck.

BLING SCORE:

The toy story by which all other billionaires should be judged!

CLOTHES AND JEWELLERY

Vijay favours clothes from Armani, Lanvin and Ralph Lauren, and is always adorned by huge gold bangles and diamond earrings. He also owns a knuckleduster encrusted with precious stones.

BLING SCORE:

Even his underwear drawer sparkles.

OVERALL BLING SCORE: 24/25

Dr Vijay Mallya is worth $1.2 billion according to Forbes and he certainly likes to flash the cash. With a bigger yacht on the way and now a global platform, Vijay's bling will shine even brighter.

ILLUSTRATION: MATT JOHNSTONE

Flavio BRIATORE



BUSINESS

It's difficult to find greater nouveau riche sparkle than in Sardinia's Porto Cervo, where Flavio is treated as a deity – mostly so the party set can avoid paying the 45-euro cover charge to get into his Billionaire nightclub. Once inside, though, they can easily spend up to 12,000 euros on dinner. There are plans to open a members-only sister club in London's Pall Mall, but there have been some licensing problems. This weekend, Flav's Billionaire club has touched down at the Fairmont Monte Carlo hotel. Entry is 100 euros, which includes one drink. In addition, Flavio owns the impressive Twiga beach club in Tuscany and an über-luxurious spa hotel in Kenya (but we'll come back to that later). Then there's Cipriani, a swanky Italian restaurant in London's Mayfair, which is a favourite with celebrity diners including Madonna. Flavio is also in the fashionable business of selling haute couture; Billionaire Couture fans include David Beckham and P Diddy. Less fashionably, but more profitably, Flavio used to hold a major stake in Italian pharmaceuticals company Pierrel, a premier chemist for local anesthetics and industry research, but recently sold his shares.

BLING SCORE:

By selling his interests in the lucrative but unglamorous pharmaceuticals company, Flav's bling score goes up – now his entire business portfolio is about living well and having a good time.

SPORTS

Briatore is now even bigger news on the back pages of British newspapers following his investment in Queens Park Rangers football club. He and Bernie Ecclestone masterminded a £14 million takeover, and then invited Lakshmi Mittal, the fourth richest person in the world, to join them. With massive financial clout, many observers expect a spending spree on top-name players and are already drawing comparisons to Chelsea FC, the playground of another billionaire.

BLING SCORE:

Unlike Vijay, Flavio doesn't own his F1 team – he's merely a well-paid employee, but maintaining that position does his other brands no harm as they benefit from F1 association. Now that he's sold his stake in GP2, his London football team is his biggest personal investment – and his goal is to reach the heights of Roman Abramovich.

TOYS

Flav manages to pack so much into his life thanks to a silver Lear Jet. On the ground, he prefers to be chauffeured in his Maybach, a classic Bentley or his company car, an Infiniti 4x4. For more relaxing travel, he owns the 68.2m Force Blue, currently the 91st largest yacht in the world. Formerly an ice-breaker, it now features 12 ultra-luxurious cabin suites, a spa with vapour showers, a Turkish bath and a gym.

BLING SCORE:

Some smart toys there, no doubt, but in Vijay's company he'll have to try harder.

HOMES

Briatore keeps his homes to a few, preferring instead to rely on the presidential suites of his favourite hotelier, Park Hyatt, when he travels. At the moment, Flav is temporarily living in a modestly sized penthouse apartment overlooking the Thames on London's Cheyne Walk while his large Chelsea house is being renovated. Then there's the Lion In The Sun, his magnificent Kenyan getaway, which is made up of 20 villas, a huge pool and a world-class spa. Rooms are available to rent; last month, Bono booked the whole hotel.

BLING SCORE:

Flavio's property portfolio is very modest for a man with eight figures in the bank, and he loses some bling points for allowing paying guests to stay at his Malindi retreat. Then again, give him a bonus for getting the A-list to pay for something.

CLOTHES AND JEWELLERY

Think that's team-issue kit he's wearing? You're wrong; those Renault shirts are custom-made by Flav's personal tailor, Angelo Galasso, who in fact designs all his clothes and shoes. His entire wardrobe is fitted and personalised. He wears a black diamond around his neck, and on his left wrist is a silver bracelet given to him by Mohammed al-Fayed.

BLING SCORE:

The link between the pitlane and the catwalk.

OVERALL BLING SCORE: 18/25

Flavio Briatore's estimated $150 million fortune has gone a long way and won him many admirers in the process. As he establishes himself in football, his wealth and fame are sure to rise.

Starry NIGHT

The Red Bull Energy Station hosted a night to remember on Thursday as guests danced into the early hours.

FOR MORE, VISIT: WWW.REDBULLETINF1.COM

PHOTOGRAPHY: THOMAS BUTLER, GEPA

FORMULA FABULOUS

Formula One might be high octane but it's not yet high fashion. If the sport wants to truly get on trend these are the teams we want to see…



PAUL SMITH LUCKY STRIPE RACING
The English designer's trademark go-faster stripes are definitely worth an extra half second around Monza.
Driver: *Takuma Sato, because like Paul Smith, he's big in Japan.*



LOUIS VUITTON LMVFAST
No F1 driver's significant other would transit through airports without vast quantities of Vuitton. So why not make the ultimate transport statement with Team Vuitton.
Driver: *Luxury Frenchman Sébastien Bourdais.*



D&G F1 FOR MAN OR WOMAN
F1's sexy right? So you've got to have the ultra-sexy D&G in the paddock haven't you? The only regret might be advertisements featuring drivers in their underwear.
Driver: *We've not seen any in their boxers, so we vote for Gisele Bündchen.*



SUPER SWAROVSKI
For the ultimate in Colin Chapman-esque fragility we give you the crystal car. Is it fast? Who cares. Check out the sparkly bits baby!
Driver: *Glamour god Nelson Piquet.*



BECKHAM AMERICAN RACING
The paddock needs a BAR back, so who better than the Beckhams to bring a little nouveau riche 'style' to the place. Think a Jacob & Co watch in denim and you'll understand the type of machinery we mean.
Driver: *The paddock's own David Beckham – Jenson Button.*



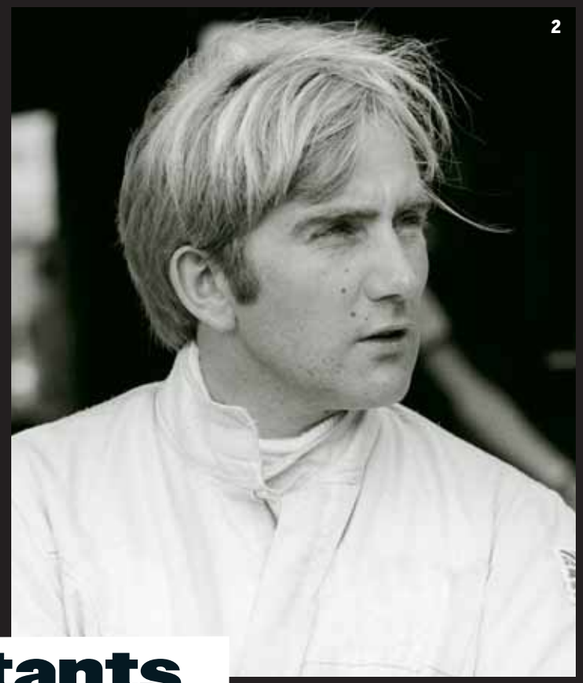
FORCE VERSACE
The gold standard of F1. In fact the car is made of gold, well gilt. It weighs so much and has so many accessories that it finishes a week after everyone else, but who cares, darling!
Driver: *Style guru Tonio Liuzzi.*

Debutants
Who started out where, and when?

1



2



3



4



ANSWERS: 1. LARRY PERKINS, WHOSE FIRST GP WAS GERMANY 1974, THOUGH HE DID NOT QUALIFY. 2. RICHARD ROBARTS, 1974, ARGENTINA. 3. ERIC BERNARD, 1989, FRANCE. 4. WILSON FITTIPALDI, 1972, SPAIN.

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PHOTOGRAPHY: SUTTON IMAGES

Lucky Numbers

TAMARA ECCLESTONE

Bernie's daughter picks up matchboxes and pens wherever she goes, and is relieved to be on television these days, not waiting on rude customers.

100

ONE HUNDRED HOTEL PENS... that I've stolen over the years. Like my matchbox collection, I do it so I remember all the places I've been. The best hotel I ever stayed in was the Reethi Rah in the Maldives, which is my favourite place in the world.

I'VE PRESENTED THREE TV SHOWS... I'm covering F1 for Sky Sports Italy, which is great for my languages and I'm enjoying coming to all the races. I've presented the Red Bull Air Race show, the Wrooom event for Philip Morris and I'll shortly be doing a lifestyle segment for British breakfast-time programme GMTV. It means I'll get to cover London Fashion Week. I can't wait.

3

23

THE PRESENT I RECEIVED FOR MY 23RD BIRTHDAY WAS THE BEST ONE YET... I'd rather my parents spent money on a memory rather than on something material. We all went out to Las Vegas, swum with dolphins, went to shows and did a bit of gambling. At one point I was up $1,000 but then I lost it all. I'd never have the courage to gamble with more.

10

TEN TENNIS GAMES WITH GORAN IVANISEVIC... I'd say I was playing with him rather than against him, as obviously he takes things easy when he plays me. He's an old family friend and would always come by to fire a few balls at me whenever he was at Wimbledon.



4

FOURTH PLACE IN SKY ONE'S THE RACE... I didn't think I liked to drive fast until I took part in this celebrity racing show and got to drive a variety of different track cars. I had David Coulthard as my mentor, which was fantastic and I was so lucky not to get Eddie Irvine! The final race was in Formula Fords. I was the quickest of the girls and came fourth overall out of 10. My mother says that watching it aged her 100 years and I'll never to do it again. But I loved it.

4

FOUR MONTHS WORKING IN AN ARMANI STORE... in London. I told my dad I wanted to work in fashion and he said this was a good place to start. I hated it. I couldn't believe how rude the customers were. They rarely said 'please' or 'thank you'. I was shocked.

3

I HAVE THREE DOGS... A Cavalier King Charles called Hob Nob, which is the name of a biscuit, a British bulldog called Socky and Alvin, a Puggle – a pug and beagle cross. They fit perfectly in the boot of my Range Rover.

200

TWO HUNDRED MATCHBOXES... Which is ironic because I don't smoke. I just like to collect them to remind me of places I've been. A lot come from Chinese restaurants, as that's my favourite food. I recommend Memories of China on London's Ebury Street.

PHOTOGRAPHY: GETTY IMAGES